

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for receiving data signals, said system comprising:
 - a dumb node comprising a radio receiver including a baseband processor for accepting a spread spectrum signal and for providing therefrom serial data signals composed of data frames each including a packet payload;
 - a decoder;
 - a physical link, having a first end at said receiver and a second end at said decoder, for conveying said serial data signals from said radio receiver to said decoder;
 - ~~means~~ an encapsulator at said first end for encapsulating said data frames within Ethernet packetsframes;
 - ~~a transmission link for conveying said Ethernet packets; and~~
 - ~~means~~ a de-encapsulator at said second end for receiving the said Ethernet packetsframes from said link and de-encapsulating said Ethernet ~~packets~~ frames to recover said data frames;
 - and

an intelligent node including said de-encapsulator, said decoder, a protocol processor for developing addressed Ethernet data packets from said data frames, and a bridge for coupling said Ethernet data packets to a network.

2. Cancelled

3. (Currently Amended) A system ~~according to~~ as in claim 1 and including wherein said encapsulator includes means for tagging said data frames before they are encapsulated within said Ethernet packets~~frames~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A system ~~according to~~ as in claim 1 wherein ~~the means for encapsulating~~ said encapsulator inserts at least one of said data frames followed by padding data into ~~the~~ a message section of ~~an~~ one of said Ethernet frames.

5. Cancelled.

6. (Currently Amended) A system for receiving data signals and coupling data signals to an Ethernet network, said system comprising:

a dumb node comprising a radio receiver and an encapsulator, said radio receiver including a baseband processor for providing serial data signals composed of data frames each including a packet payload, and said encapsulator including means for encapsulating said data frames within temporary Ethernet packets~~frames~~;

an intelligent node comprising a de-encapsulator, and a protocol processor for providing addressed Ethernet packets for ~~transmission~~ transmission in said network; and

a physical link coupling said ~~dumb~~dumb node with said intelligent node;

wherein:

said encapsulator is coupled to said physical link to send said temporary Ethernet ~~packets~~frames to said de-encapsulator;

said de-encapsulator includes means for receiving said temporary Ethernet ~~packets~~frames from said link and de-encapsulating said temporary Ethernet ~~packets~~frames to recover said data frames; and

said protocol processor includes means for converting said data frames into said addressed Ethernet packets.

7. (Currently Amended) A system ~~according to~~as in claim 6 wherein said encapsulator includes means for tagging said data frames before they are encapsulated within said temporary Ethernet ~~packets~~frames.

8. (Currently Amended) A system ~~according to~~as in claim 6 wherein said encapsulator includes means for inserting at least one of said data frames followed by padding data into a message section of one of said temporary Ethernet ~~packets~~frames.

9. (New) A system as in claim 6 wherein said dumb node includes a multiplexer for multiplexing host controller interface data with pulse-code modulated voice data into said data frames.

10. (New) A method of receiving signals and transmitting signals over a local area network, comprising:

receiving a spread-spectrum signal containing message data and converting said spread-spectrum signal into serial data frames conforming to a host controller interface format;

encapsulating said serial data frames into Ethernet frames;

conveying said Ethernet frames over a physical link;

receiving said Ethernet frames from said physical link;

de-encapsulating said Ethernet data frames to provide recovered serial data frames;

developing by means of a protocol processor addressed Ethernet data packets from said recovered serial data frames; and

forwarding said addressed Ethernet data packets to said local area network.